

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176808
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 OPIC-03 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:CAKENNEDY:SEB
APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
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-----128554 290658Z /13

R 281551Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176808

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ETRD, EG, US

SUBJECT:FORD MOTOR COMPANY

1. DURING JULY 26 CALL ON DAS SOBER, E.P. WILLIAMS AND
WAYNE FREDRICKS OF FORD INFORMED US ON SOME ASPECTS OF
THEIR RECENT TRAVELS IN THE GULF.

2. IN MANAMA, FORD REPS APPARENTLY HAD INTERESTING
DISCUSSION WITH PM ON FORD'S BOYCOTT PROBLEMS. FORD WAS
TRYING TO COUNTER FALSE INFORMATION, WHICH THEY SAY WAS
WIDELY DISSEMINATED, AFTER AN EXTENSIVE EXAMINATION OF
FORD'S MIDDLE EAST OPERATIONS, AT THE ALEXANDRIA MEETING.
PM SEEMED UNAWARE OF FORD'S ACTUAL POSITION AND AFTER
HEARING FORD EXPLANATION, PM OFFERED TO HELP BY STUDYING
FORD POSITION CAREFULLY AND ON BASIS HIS CONCLUSIONS
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PERHAPS PASSING TRUE FACTS AROUND ARAB WORLD. SINCE
FORD ALSO WAS DISCUSSING POSSIBLE BUSINESS PROSPECTS IN THE
AREA, FORD REPS UNCLEAR WHAT PM MAY WANT IN EXCHANGE FOR
HIS HELP. FORD REPS WERE ADVISED TO BE SURE THEY UNDER-
STOOD WHAT PM MAY WANT AND GENERAL PROBLEMS OF DOING
BUSINESS WITH PM THROUGH AGENTS.

3. FORD REPS ALSO DISCUSSED WITH ALBA MANAGER, LIVINGSTONE,
FORD'S GENERAL AND TENTATIVE INTEREST IN ALUMINUM

INDUSTRY IN GULF, BUT NEITHER SIDE PUT FORWARD ANY
PROPOSALS. IN LONDON, FORD REPS TALKED WITH UAE
AMBASSADOR MAHDI TAJIR MORE SPECIFICALLY ABOUT POSSIBILITY
OF FORD PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR LOAN TO DUBAI PROJECT.
HOWEVER, FORD'S INTEREST IN ALUMINUM VENTURE IN WHICH THEY
WOULD RECEIVE REPAYMENT IN KIND HAS COOLED SOMEWHAT.
APPARENTLY ALUMINUM THEY WOULD RECEIVE WOULD BE VALUED
ABOVE PRICE FOR WHICH FORD CAN BUY ALUMINUM. ALSO,
PROPOSED DUBAI PROJECT DOES NOT HAVE EITHER ASSURED POWER
SUPPLY OR ALUMINA CONTRACTS AS YET.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: EINV, ETRD, BTRA, EG, US, TC, BA, ZP, FORD MOTOR CO
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